

You can pick from any of the following topics:

1 – The recently completed 113th Congress was argued by some to be among the most dysfunctional in American history. But is this in fact true? I want you to look through the available evidence and weigh in on this question.

2 – As of this writing, France is still reeling from an attack on a satirical newspaper. But some – even those who oppose the attack – argue that undue criticism of religion can be a provocative act that can lead some to retaliate. This raises interesting questions regarding the extent is the freedom of speech, specifically the right to offend. Weigh in on this question and see if you can help determine the proper balance between the freedom of speech and the right of people to be treated with respect in regards to their religious beliefs.

3 - The 2014 election ended a couple months back, which means that the campaign for the 2016 election is well underway, which includes the race for the presidency. Right now the field is wide open. Candidates for each major party are determining whether their candidacies are viable and whether they have the resources – financial support – to make a competitive run at their party's nomination and then the general election. Do some research and determine which candidates are likely to be viable and why.

4 – One of the things the new – Republican controlled - 114th Congress has promised to do is to reverse some of President Obama's recent executive orders concerning immigration. They argue that his actions are unconstitutional, but are they? Some argue that his actions are a legitimate part of a president's executive powers. Do some research and weigh in on this issue. Spend some time looking at the history of immigration policy and try to determine to what extent it is driven by executive actions and to what degree by legislative action. What has the court done to resolve any conflict between the two?

Do you have a better idea? The write it up and send it to me when I want you to send me your proposal. You don't have to limit yourself to one of these four. You can use them if you want.

What I need from you:

- A paper that is at least 1000 word long, you may go over if you wish.
- A clearly defined thesis – a sentence stating what you are writing about and how you intend to address the topic.
- Legibility, correct spelling, good grammar.
- At least three references. I don't want you to use the links above as references, but they can give you an idea about where you can get the info you need.
- It also helps if the paper is pleasant to read. Good writing is a skill you should consider acquiring.

Look on Blackboard for the due date.